

9. M. D. G. + MARY HARMON

Feby 4, 1946.

Dear Father

I come to tell you of the death of Sister Mary Annunziata.

Dec 8th last she was lighting a vigil light and her clothing took fire from another vigil light close by. She was so badly burned that she died Dec 10th R. I. P.

We met some years ago, from dear God the Holy Ghost and she was our true devoted friend.

as a result of her leading a very holy life and having to live with those who were not so attracted, even superiors, her life was a hidden martyrdom.

Her face was so badly burned they did not allow any one to view her remains. I am sure she flew straight to Heaven.

I lead to mon Jany 5th and in a few weeks will have to mon again.

The next move S.V. will be permanent.
Have been suffering much since
early December, especially at Christmas
and for some time after.

am asking prayers for a man
(William is his first name) who wants a divorce
from his most charming Catholic wife, mother
of four of the most attractive children who
have exquisite manners. He is living
with a Protestant woman, most unattractive,
Everyone who meets her wife loves
her. She of course absolutely refuses to grant
the divorce.

Please tell my sons they are never
forgotten in my sufferings and prayers.

Begging you holy Prayers and
Blessing I am in the Wounded Sacred
Heart of Jesus

Devotedly

Mary

1638 Rydalmount Road.

Cleveland Heights, 18,

Cleveland. Ohio.

J. M. J.

O. L. A.
Manteno, Illinois
Feb. 12, 1946

My dear Spiritual Father:

In God's Holy Name pray for me lest I die under the stress of difficulties with which I am oppressed. It is a battle with hell itself. I am so unnerved this morning I can scarcely type. Do pray for me, please.

Sister Aline is in dying condition and begs for prayers. I spent the afternoon with her yesterday at St. Mary's. Please pray for her.

Enclosed is \$10.00 - I would like a novena of Masses for the General Chapter -that we have a Good General and Provincial, that the light of God's wisdom may guide us in voting.

Union of prayer and sacrifice - Until later.

Sister Mary

J. M. J.

OUR LADY ACADEMY
MANTENO, ILLINOIS



PHONE 2351

Please destroy after
reading.

Feb. 21,
January 10, 1946

My dear Spiritual Father:

Looks like maybe you were going to get a letter in January. I don't think you did, did you? I don't remember writing but this paper is too good to waste...

I come to you laden anew with my difficulties - perhaps you will approve and perhaps not of what I did. I have one sister, S. Scholastica & mention the name since you know her, who has for the past 2½ years, been a source of constant trouble, because of her disobedience, scandal connected therewith and other things which I shall not go into.

Two weeks ago I wrote the Ecclesiastical Superior that he had not made a visitation since his nomination (to our convent) and these were conditions that made it advisable. (Visiting backwards,

please excuse.) I really had all I could take both physically and morally, and this all had a very bad effect on the younger sister, the problem was mine, and for every effort I made for correction a valley of curse and demoralization and spite followed. I never dreamed religious could do the things they do - I thought I was treacherous but I never done or even thought of such things as I have witnessed and been the recipient of. The individual in question has been threatening my every move with the Eccles Superior - and the last time 2 weeks ago, I think will be the last time. I told her things had gone as far as they were going to go and I meant it, that they would have to be settled once for all with Rev. Mathes - She answered they will be settled with the Eccles Superior

first - I didn't tell her they would. I was really angry and justifiably so at her half-truths, etc. Before God I considered again (as I had with a paenian outbreak) to invite the Eccles. in, and I decided to do it for these reasons.

1. She has been using the Eccles. as a "club" over my head since September (by reason of misquotations which have been made against him.) She no longer fears the Provincial Council because there has been too much threatening and not enough action and she thought she had a "grip" in the Eccles. so why fear?

2. She threatened she could go to see the Eccles. without my permission - that Canon Law gives her that right - and I considered with her half-truths and intellectual mind she could easily work up a pretty story which she does

readily, and that would do no good - I decided to act before she had a chance to do this.

3. In fairness to all I thought it better that the visitation be made so that he could hear not only my side and hers, but get the opinion and attitudes of the Community as a whole.

4. The better religious of this Community (and I do not include myself as desirous of being of the number) have taken as much as human endurance will permit. Even with all the grace of God we are still only poor weak creatures of God. As I told you before the beautiful spirit of the house is suffering shipwreck - the spirit of obedience is sorely wanting

the spirit of rebellion and
disrespect for authority are
rampant. It is a case of
justice and holding to the
religious spirit in accord
with our Constitutions, and
the dictates of Conscience ^{of}
casting aside the general
welfare, ceding to the caprice
and self-will of the unruly
disobedient religious, and
then save your Conscience
that you have done right.

Not Me! I am determined
that religious obedience
and the religious spirit
are not to be sacrificed
for selfishness, caprice or
self-will - not so long
as I have breath to breath.
It is a question of "grant me

what I ask, do as I say, take my orders -- If not, there is fire and famine and threats and "hell" for not only the one in authority, but the good religions who try to curb the culprit and his sympathizing adherents.

Before God I have determined to adhere strictly to the dictates of my conscience doing what before God seems to me right - unless abdience has determined otherwise, and leave the consequences to God. It means relinquishing the esteem of some, (sometimes even the ^{but only} virtuous) temporarily until their eyes are opened as happened in the case of St. Monica.)

but peace of soul is a precious
heritage I shall not renounce for
any creature - men are not worth
it and God does not ask or
desire that. I have known what
it means to want peace again
after the long siege of scruples
and uncertainty I experienced -
and I shall not do anything
volitional to lose what I so
value. I feel that I am a
hapless failure, and my
acknowledgement of this was
asking for an early ~~exorcism~~ ^{visitation}
by Reverend Mather, and then
this last by the Eccllesiastical
Superior - I feel like a helpless
child capable of naught, and
I know much of my failure
is due to my want of a
spirit of prayer. Still, I know
difficulties are permitted by God

for the sanctification of our
immortal souls, and I know
though He seems far removed
from me, He must be very
near else I could not bear
to live on with the surging
tide of trouble rising higher
and higher. Since this
Eccles. visitation I feel much
of my uncertainty is gone
and I feel invincibly strong.
Bless God to grant me the
courage to do His will regard-
less of the cost to self. I
feel God has permitted all
this because there must be
something done with these
rebellious characters, especially
the younger ones. I love
our Holy Rule - the beautiful
spirit of our Congregations
inculcated in our Father's

Councils and ~~and~~ Constitutions
and those in authority are
bound to uphold it. The General
Chapter is coming up in
Summer - the new Provincial
will have something to do -
It is my belief it should be
Mother Rose Mary or Mother St. Eugene.
I believe Mother Rose M. could
handle the situation beautifully -
perhaps better than M. Eng - but
God knows best. Some suggest
Mother Victor - but ^{that is} ~~that is~~ my idea.
God will determine all that.
I am sure that we have
the one God wants us to have.

The Provincial Chapter is to
meet March 16th - S. M. Catherine
and I are going to vote as C.L.A.
delegates, for the ² American
delegates to France. Mother Eugene
will probably be one - she is my
choice - Mother Rose M. has been our

3 times already I am told. Who ever
they are they need the great, great
special grace of God. I have no
fear personally that God will
ask that of me - my state of soul
alone gives me a sort of security
that I am safely out. But my
sufferings are being offered up for
those whom God will call upon
both Provincial and General.
Here things are in a sort of
crisis. Shall Christ and His grace
triumph or Satan? - Christ must
and will in the end - but Satan
for the moment works as the
destroying angel - but he cannot
go farther than God allows. I
trust Him to care for us -
Beseech Him to be merciful for
the offences of all of us, and to
make up to my sisters for what
is washing off my soul. Union of
prayers and sacrifice. Please try
to write if you can. Respectfully,
Sister Mary

*Ad M. Superioris
Mediatoris
M. Superioris*

St. Patrick Academy
Momence, Illinois

J. M. J.

February 26, 1946.

Rev. Aloysius Ellacuria, C.M.F.,
Claretian Major Seminary,
Compton, California.

Rev. dear Father:

Enclosed kindly find a check with other offerings for Mass stipends which I would appreciate your taking care of for me. I would appreciate your saying the Mass for my intentions yourself if it would be possible.

Since it is now so long since I have heard from you, I scarcely know what to say. Your very long silence puzzles me. I was disappointed not to have heard from you during my illness; however I feel certain that you did pray for me.

The days of my enforced rest were really days of great grace for me - for He drew me closely to Himself during those long days and taught me many lessons which perhaps I would not have learned otherwise. I am finding it rather difficult now that I am back at work again to find time for everything, particularly since I am obliged to rest quite a little. Reverend Mother has already told me that I would not go to camp this summer.

I know that Mother St. Eugene has written to you asking for Masses for the coming Provincial Chapter to be held on March 16. I ask, too, that you implore the Holy Spirit with us that His Will and His alone be accomplished throughout. I saw Sister Mary Mediatrix at the hospital last Sunday. I don't know if you heard that she was operated on for a mastoid - she is getting along very nicely but she has suffered much.

I would appreciate any suggestions you may find fit to give me for Lent, Father. Your last letter has been the constant source of much meditation for me - and I have read and re-read it frequently. I completed the notes of last summer's retreat and sent them to you. I still have to transcribe the notes of the last two monthly retreats and I shall do this when I can. We are privileged in having a very saintly Jesuit for our monthly day of recollection.

Assuring you of my constant prayers for you and begging your blessing and a memento in your holy Sacrifice, I remain

Gratefully in Him

Lester Mooy Dolores